

Glades Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC)

**Meeting of August 26, 2004
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

Belle Glade City Hall – Conference Room “B”

Minutes

Present at the meeting:

Duane Gainer, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)
Iris Jackson, City of Belle Glade, Community Development
Arthur Kirstein, P.B.C. Cooperative Extension
Angela Morlok, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Theresa Newton, USDA/Rural Development
Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development
Cesar
William Wynn, P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)

Absent:

Denny Abbott, Employer Services Executive, P.B.C. Workforce Alliance
Debby Blauvelt, Glades Community Development Corporation
Ralph Butts, City of Belle Glade Community Development
Dale Erickson, Erickson Farms
Joe Glucksman, Florida Housing Corporation
Douglas Green, City of Belle Glade, Workforce Development Center
Roswell Harrington, Sam's Investment Corporation
Kelly Johnson, Glades Initiative
Lillie Latimore, City Manager, Pahokee
Raoul Pierre-Louis, Business Loan Fund (Representative for John Brown)
Sandy Mercer, Canal Point Citizen
Matt Mills, City of Belle Glade
Tammy Moore, South Florida Water Management District
Theresa Newton, USDA/Rural Development
Alan Schafler, CEO, EDGE
Michael Sklar, P.B.C. Housing & Community Development (HCD)
Barbara Spence, City of Belle Glade, Community Development
Andrea Stephenson, Glades Initiative
Clifford Stuart, Stuart Farm
Alice Thompson, Pahokee Chamber of Commerce
Autrie Moore-Williams, Glades Community Development Corporation

Welcome and Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Gainer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced himself and asked everyone to introduce herself or himself.

Review of Minutes (July '04 Meeting)

Mr. Gainer asked if there were corrections to the minutes. There were no corrections.

Presentation – PATCH (Planned Approach To Community Health)

Duane Gainer stated that Chief Rafael Duran was scheduled today to give a presentation about the organization. He mentioned that Chief Duran had given a presentation about the organization (PATCH) at the August 2nd CCRT Meeting. Mr. Gainer commented that Chief Duran is not here due to a conflict and then he briefly talked about what the PATCH organization is about.

Participant Updates and Comments

Duane Gainer, OCR, reported on the following:

- Monthly Project Progress Reports submitted to Administration. This report shows all the CCRT projects.
- Rev. Leon Campbell Park – Grand Opening is scheduled for September 18th.
- REAP Program – scheduled to begin on September 8th in the western regions (Glades). This is a five-week program, held on Wednesday's from 6:30p.m. – 8:00p.m in the Glades Commission Chambers. The program focuses on enlightening the community about County Government.
- September 13th CCRT Meeting – He welcomed everyone to attend the meeting, at 10:00a.m.; located at PZ&B, 100 S. Australian Ave., WPB.

Arthur Kirstein, P.B.C. Cooperative Extension reported on the following:

- Lake Okeechobee Connector - Assisting Property Real Estate Management (PREM) and Environmental Resources Management (ERM) with this project.
- Lab section to Lake Okeechobee & an area part of Florida Crystal's – is in negotiation. This is part of the Lake Okeechobee Connector coming down from the coast (Scenic Trail). (Group Discussion)

Participant Updates and Comments (Cont'd)

Pam Nolan, P.B.C. Economic Development, reported on the following:

- Canal Point Project – In the process of submitting the final application to USDA. She is still in need of approximately \$200,000 for the project.
- South Bay Park of Commerce Committee – She is a member. She discussed a concern with the mortgage on the property.
- Market Depot Project – She will be attending a meeting on this project.
- Railroad Cottage Project – She will be attending a meeting on this project.
- Belle Glade Arcade – The project is almost complete. She will be taking pictures.
- Jelly Roll Café & Gift Boutique – She will be taking pictures.
- Bench Marks for USDA – She will be visiting all the communities regarding whether the information is included for this project.

Ms. Nolan discussed the funding for the sewer project. She also discussed the process for completing this project.

Angela Morlok, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), reported on the following:

- Clewiston Belle Glade Route – She will be in the Glades area in October doing a survey to get an understanding on the residents daily activities and why.
- Working with District 1 (Hendry County) – Doing a study to see if the community feels the bus route service needs to be extended.
- Tourist Railroad – The Workforce Alliance is pursuing this project. She is working with the Chief of Staff in Tallahassee. The steam locomotive will encourage jobs and businesses to the area.

Mr. Gainer mentioned a concern about the signs. There was a group discussion about the signs.

Cesar _____ , P.B.C. Cooperative Extension, reported on the following:

- Spanish Training Programs & Farm Safety Programs – He provides language training. This will help people that do not speak English, to pass the licensing test.
- Pesticide Training Program – The program mostly concentrate toward the worker's safety in relation to the workers knowing how to use and apply the pesticides.

Participant Updates and Comments (Cont'd)

Iris Jackson, City of Belle Glade, Community Development, reported on the following:

- National Crime Night Out (Chief Dodel) – On August 5th, she attended the event. This event provided backpacks and school supplies to the kids.
- Replacement House for Freddie Harrell – On August 19th, the closing on the house was held.
- Hands Park – Luke's Construction is in the processing of completing the construction for the park.
- Hard Trail (Mace Park) – Seeking assistance with funding to complete this project.
- Lighting at the Airport Park - Headed by Sherri Doland, and the local residents are soliciting funds.
- Infill Housing/Renaissance Village Groundbreaking (22 homes) – The ceremony was held in July. It was a huge success. The attendance was outstanding. Ms. Jackson brought pictures of the project.
- Belle Glade Business Park – The first 50 acres is full. She named some of the business.

Pam Nolan asked for a list of the businesses; contact names and telephone numbers. Ms. Jackson will provide her with the information.

Mr. Gainer inquired about the status of Abajon. Ms. Jackson commented that Abajon is in the process of starting groundbreaking for pilings.

William Wynn, OCR, reported on the following:

- Pahokee Charrette Visioning Plan – He commented that OCR is still in the process of completing the Kenwood Charrette Visioning Plan. As far as the Glades, OCR would like to first start with the Wallace Street Charrette. (There was group discussion)

Questions/Comments:

Pam Nolan inquired about a presentation previously mentioned about Head Start. Mr. Gainer responded that he would contact Janel Horne to do a presentation.

Ms. Nolan suggested contacting Buffy Inman, City of South Bay, to join the GTAC group. Because of staff change, she also suggested contacting staff from Pahokee to attend the GTAC meetings. Mr. Gainer responded that he would make a note to take care of this.

Adjournment:

Mr. Gainer stated that if there were no other questions or comments, the meeting is adjourned. The next meeting will be held on September 23rd.

Minutes prepared by:

Joyce Harrell, Secretary
P.B.C. Office of Community Revitalization

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